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Maintenance of international security

General and complete disarmament

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Training and research

Globalization and interdependence

Crime prevention and criminal justice

International drug control

Human rights questions

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 10 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation signed at New Delhi by Mr. V. V. Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, on 3 October 2000 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 67, 73, 83, 94, 97, 100, 105, 106, 114 and 164.

(*Signed*) Kamalesh **Sharma**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of India
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 10 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration on Strategic Partnership between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation

The Republic of India and the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Sides,

PROCEEDING from a desire to further consolidate their traditionally close and friendly ties to mutual benefit,

DRAWING upon their rich and fruitful tradition of cooperation in various fields accumulated over half a century since their establishment of diplomatic relations,

EMPHASIZING the fundamental and lasting importance of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation of 28 January 1993 which was a continuation of the bilateral Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of 9 August 1971, of the Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation of 30 June 1994, and of the Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States of 30 June 1994,

CONVINCED that the further comprehensive development of their bilateral ties would promote progress and prosperity in both states and the consolidation of positive trends in the world as a whole,

SEEKING to impart a qualitatively new character and long term perspective to their multifaceted bilateral relations and to actively develop them in political, economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields in the years ahead and into the 21st century,

PROCEEDING from the conviction that it is necessary to build a multipolar global structure based on sovereign equality of all states and peoples, democratic values and justice,

CONFIRMING their adherence to the common ideals of peace, democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, non-violence and secularism,

RECOGNISING their special responsibility by virtue of being among the largest multiethnic, multilingual and multireligious States,

INSPIRED by a desire to jointly contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security, the democratization of international relations, as well to the promotion of the establishment of a new, just and stable world order,

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter,

DECLARE as follows:

1. The Sides hereby proclaim the establishment of relations of strategic partnership between them. Based on mutual understanding and long term confidence in each other, this envisages the elevation of their multifaceted ties to an even higher and qualitatively new level, while imparting them with a specially close and dynamic character, both in the bilateral field and in the international arena.

2. This strategic partnership between the Sides is based upon the principles of sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity of States, non-interference in their internal affairs, mutual respect and mutual benefit.

3. Such a strategic partnership would include enhanced cooperation in the following fields:

(a) Political

- Convening of annual Summit level meetings;
- regular bilateral, political and foreign office consultations on issues of mutual concern;
- closer cooperation at the United Nations, including its specialized agencies and institutions at other international and regional fora;
- further intensifying their efforts aimed at strengthening international peace and security, general and complete disarmament, systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating these weapons, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful settlement of disputes;
- joint initiatives on key international and regional issues;
- informing each other of planned foreign policy initiatives in the international arena;
- non-participation in any military-political or other alliances or associations or armed conflict directed against the other Side, or in any treaties, agreements or understanding infringing upon the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity or national security interests of the other Side.

(b) Trade and Economy

- strengthening close cooperation within the framework of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation, as well as other joint bodies of business and industry representatives, with a view to expand trade and economic relations;
- deepening and diversifying cooperation in sectors such as metallurgy, fuel and energy, information technology, communications and transport, including merchant shipping and civil aviation;

- further development of cooperation in banking and finance, and improving credit and insurance facilities so as to promote bilateral trade;

- creating a favourable environment for mutual investments and guaranteeing their protection;

- simplifying customs and other procedures and promoting the removal of non-tariff barriers and gradual lowering of tariff barriers;

- establishing effective mechanisms for interaction between Indian and Russian entities with a view to achieve sustained expansion of bilateral trade in a long term perspective;

- encouraging contacts between regions in both countries with a view to promoting trade and economic cooperation;

- simplifying rules and procedures for travel by entrepreneurs and businessmen of both countries;

- further enhancing the quality and international competitiveness of their goods by, inter alia, promoting the joint development and sharing of the latest technologies;

- exploiting to mutual benefit the new opportunities arising out of the integration processes underway in the world economy;

- enhancing cooperation and coordination at international trade, economic and financial bodies;

- jointly exploring the possibilities of regional trading arrangements with third countries;

(c) Defense

- consolidating defence and military-technical cooperation in a long-term perspective;

- deepening service-to-service cooperation.

(d) Science and Technology

- promoting existing and new forms of cooperation in fundamental and applied scientific research, expanding the exchange of scientists and scientific information, establishing direct ties between scientific research/higher educational institutions;

- cooperating in areas such as oceanology, agricultural sciences, medical sciences and biotechnology, environmentally clean technologies, meteorology, standardization, metrology and certification of each other's products.

- jointly exploring the possibilities of commercial application of the results of scientific and technological research and development.

- cooperating in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and the peaceful use of outer space.

(e) Culture

- further promoting cultural cooperation and a wider exposure to each other's cultural heritage and achievements;

- activating contacts between peoples and organizations including in the fields of culture, education, mass media, youth and sports.

- promoting tourist exchanges and cooperation between tourist organizations in both countries.

(f) Other fields

- cooperating in the fight against international terrorism, separatism, organized crime, and illegal trafficking in narcotics;

- cooperating in rendering mutual legal assistance in civil and criminal matters and in matters relating to extradition, as well as in other related areas;

4 The strategic partnership between the Sides is not directed against any other State or group of States, and does not seek to create a military-political alliance.

5 Signed on 3rd October 2000 at New Delhi in two originals, each in Hindi, Russian and English languages.

(Signed)

Prime Minister of the Republic of India

(Signed)

President of the Russian Federation